



## H.Res. 1286 – Recognizing and celebrating the 20th anniversary of the National Black Arts Festival

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### FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1286 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative John Lewis (D-GA) on June 19, 2008. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, but was never considered.

H.Res. 1286 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on July 22, 2008.

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### SUMMARY

H.Res. 1286 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Recognizes the important role that arts and arts education plays in the lives of millions of Americans;
- Recognizes the continuing contributions and influence of African-American art work to America's cultural life;
- Urges all citizens to support efforts to strengthen artistic training and appreciation in schools; and
- Recognizes the 20th anniversary of the National Black Arts Festival.

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### BACKGROUND

The National Black Arts Festival (NBAF) is a nonprofit institution based in Atlanta, Georgia. The organization was founded in 1987, after a study was completed by the Fulton County Arts Council urging the creation of such a group. The mission of the NBAF is to engage, cultivate, and educate diverse audiences about the arts and cultures of the African Diaspora and provide opportunities for artistic and creative expression.

The NBAF presents a biannual summer festival in July, in addition to its year-round cultural programs and education efforts. The NBAF has created over 40 independently produced programs in the past year.

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### STAFF CONTACT

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